

Name: _____

Embedding Quotations into Your Writing

Embedding snippets of quotes is a more effective way to use quotations in your paper. They are often shorter than the original quote, allowing you to use your own words to paraphrase or summarize. In addition, they improve sentence fluency. What is a snippet? A portion of the original quote.

The following excerpts come from the novel *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck:

Original Quote: *"I ought to have shot that dog myself, George, I shouldn't ought to have let no stranger shoot my dog"*
Snippet of quote: "I ought to have shot that dog myself" (Steinbeck 27).

Embedding a quote at the beginning of a sentence using a snippet of the quote:

"I ought to have shot that dog myself" laments Candy, as he reflects on how he should have performed this task (Steinbeck 27).

Embedding a quote in the middle of a sentence:

Candy confesses to George and Lennie that he "should have shot that dog" himself, and further notes that it he regrets allowing a stranger to do it (Steinbeck 27).

Embedding a quote at the end of a sentence (also referred to using a lead in phrase):

Candy reveals to George his deep regret when he states, "I should have shot that dog myself" (Steinbeck 27).

Embedding several snippets of the quote throughout your sentence:

Candy suffers not only from grief, but from remorse as he reveals the knowledge that he "should have shot that dog" himself and that he "shouldn't ought to let no stranger" shoot his long time companion (Steinbeck 27).

Using brackets and the ellipsis

BRACKETS [] allow you to do two things: **1.** Change the author's original wording **2.** Add words for fluency or clarity.

ELLIPSIS (three dots ...) allows you to delete a word or words from the original longer quote. **NOTE:** You do not need them at the beginning or end of a quote, even if you eliminate words. This is considered a snippet.

Example 1: Changing the author's original wording for better fluency.

Candy realizes that he "should have shot that dog [himself]" (Steinbeck 27). What is the change from the original quote? _____

Example 2: Adding words to the author's original wording

Candy states to George, "I should have shot that dog myself, George. I shouldn't ought to of let no stranger [Carlson] shoot my dog" (Steinbeck 27).

What has been changed? _____

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Practice

Directions: practice the skill of embedding quotes into your own sentences. Use each of the four methods; **Beginning**, **Middle**, **End**, and **Throughout** a sentence.

Use the following quote and commentary and embed quotes as directed:

Curley wants to fight bigger men because his small stature makes him feel insecure and inept. Clearly, he feels that winning, even unfairly, brings him respect and admiration.

Quotation: “‘S’pose Curley jumps a big guy an’ licks him. Ever’body says what a game guy Curley is. And s’pose he doe the same thing and gets licked. Then ever’body says the big guy outta pick on somebody his own size and maybe they gang up on the big guy. Seems like Curley ain’t givin’ nobody a chance” (Steinbeck 27).

Embed the quote in the beginning of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote

Embed the quote into the middle of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote

Embed the quote into the end of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote

Embed snippets from the quote throughout your sentence. Highlight the snippets.
